113. A silicon implant comprising resorbable silicon and a beneficial substance that has been associated with the resorbable silicon, the resorbable silicon having a structure that is tissue compatible.

114. A silicon implant according to claim 113 wherein the resorbable silicon comprises polycrystalline silicon.

115. A silicon implant according to claim 113 wherein the resorbable silicon comprises porous silicon.

116. A silicon implant according to claim 115 wherein the implant comprises an element of the periodic table and a porous silicon sample having a sample surface, which separates the surface of the porous silicon sample from its surroundings, the element being present at an atomic percentage between 1 and 90 percent at a depth, from the sample surface, between 0.35μm and 1000μm, the atomic percentage being 100 x (the ratio of number of atoms of the element to the total number of atoms at that depth).

117. A silicon implant according to claim 113 wherein the implant has a structure and composition such that, when implanted in a mammalian body, the beneficial substance is deliverable, by the resorption of the silicon, over a period greater then one month.

118. A silicon implant according to claim 113 wherein the implant has a largest dimension x, wherein $0 < x \leq 2$ mm.

119. A method of making a silicon implant for the delivery of a beneficial substance to a subject, the method comprising selecting a body of resorbable tissue compatible silicon, forming the resorbable tissue compatible silicon into an implantable

implant, and introducing a beneficial substance into the resorbable tissue compatible silicon.

120. A method according to claim 119 comprising treating the body of silicon to make at least part of it porous.

121. A method according to claim 119 comprising the step of forming a region of polycrystalline silicon.

122. A method according to claim 120 wherein the beneficial substance is introduced by:

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(a) bringing the beneficial substance into contact with the porous part of the silicon;

(b) causing the beneficial substance to be in a molten phase; and

(c) allowing the molten beneficial substance to pass into the porous part of the silicon.

123. A method according to Claim 122 wherein the passage of the beneficial substance into the porous silicon is assisted by the application of heat to the porous silicon.

124. A method according to Claim 122 wherein the method further comprises the step of (d) thermally decomposing the beneficial substance that has passed into the porous silicon.

125. A method according to claims 122 wherein the method comprises the step of reacting the beneficial substance that has passed into the porous silicon with an oxidant.

126. A method according to claims 123 wherein the method comprises the step of reacting the beneficial substance that has passed into the porous silicon with an oxidant.

127. A method according to claims 124 wherein the method comprises the step of reacting the beneficial substance that has passed into the porous silicon with an oxidant.

128. A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising implanting a silicon implant according to claim 113 into an animal or human.

129. A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising implanting a silicon implant according to claim 114 into an animal or human.

130. A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising implanting a silicon implant according to claim 115 into an animal or human.

131. A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising implanting a silicon implant according to claim 116 into an animal or human.

132. A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising implanting a silicon implant according to claim 117 into an animal or human.

133. A method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising implanting a silicon implant according to claim 118 into an animal or human.